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(54) Title: ACRYLIC BASED POWDER PAINT

#### (57) Abstract

The invention relates to a powder paint based on acrylics. The thermosetting powder paint comprises a hydroxyl functional acrylic resin and an isocyanate crosslinking agent blocked with a blocking agent wherein the isocyanate crosslinking agent is an adduct of an isocyanate and a mixture of polyetramethylene ether glycol and at least one additional, but other glycol, selected from the group consisting of glycols and polyglycols.

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### ACRYLIC BASED POWDER PAINT

The invention relates to a powder paint based on acrylics.

The mechanical properties of acrylic based powder coatings are worse (pages 162-167 of "Powder Coatings, Chemistry and Technology" by Tosko Misev; John 10 Wiley and Sons, 1991). Acrylic based powder coatings, which are used in practice, are almost exclusively based on epoxy functional acrylic resins cured with long-chain dicarboxylic acids as hardeners. The long aliphatic chain of the crosslinker provides flexibility and impact 15 resistance to the cured film, but still far below the values which are usually obtainable with the other powder coating systems. In most cases the impact resistance of the acrylic powder coatings does not exceed 30 inchpounds. This is still several times lower compared to the 20 values of polyester and polyurethane based powder coatings.

It is the object of the invention to provide an acrylic powder coating system which shows excellent hardness, gloss, impact resistance, durability, clearness, chemical resistance and good flexibility.

The invention is characterized in that the thermosetting powder paint comprises

- a hydroxyl functional acrylic resin and
- an isocyanate crosslinking agent blocked with a blocking
  agent, wherein the isocyanate crosslinking agent is an
  adduct of an isocyanate and a mixture of polytetramethylene ether glycol and at least one additional, but
  other glycol, selected from the group consisting of
  glycols and polyglycols.
- Preferably the crosslinker has a melting point higher than 45°C and a molecular weight  $M_{\rm n}$  b tween 100 and 3000, more preferably between 300 and 1500.

The mixture of glycols and/or polyglycols

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contains preferably more than 50% by w ight of polytetramethyl ne ether glycol as one polyol. More preferably this amount is between 60 and 75% by weight.

Suitable other glycols or polyglycols include a great number of diols, triols and polyols, such as for example butanediol, ethanediol, neopentylglycol, 2,2-bis-(1-hydroxy-2-oxyethylphenyl)propane, 1,1-isopropylidene-bis(phenylene-oxy)di-2-propanol-2, cyclohexyldimethylol, trimethylolpropane, trimethylolethane, adipate polyols, polycaprolactone glycols and polycarbonate glycols.

According to a preferred embodiment of the invention the second additional polyglycol is a polyether polyol. A suitable polyether polyol is Voranol  $220-530^{\text{TM}}$  (of Dow).

A suitable polytetramethylene ether glycol is Terathane  $1000^{TM}$  (of Du Pont).

Suitable isocyanates include aliphatic

(poly)isocyanates such as for example hydrogenated
methylene diphenyldiisocyanate (HMDI), isophorone

20 diisocyanate (IPDI), trimer(isocyanate) of isophorone
dissocyanate (T1890<sup>TM</sup>, Hüls), 1,6-hexamethylene
diisocyanate (HDI) and the trimer of 1,6-hexanediisocyanate (Tolonate HDT<sup>TM</sup>, Rhone Poulenc), 1,3-bis(1-isocyanato-1-methylethyl)-benzene (TMXDI; American

25 Cyanamid) or aromatic polyisocyanates, such as for example
2,4 or 2,6-diisocyanatetolueen (TDI) and 4,4'-diisocyanatediphenylmethaan.

Preferably HMDI is used.

The flexible crosslinker can be prepared by

30 first reacting half of the molar equivalents of an
 isocyanate with the polyglycol mixture and next reacting
 the remaining isocyanate equivalent with a blocking agent.

A blocked isocyanate is an isocyanate which has been reacted with a material which will prev nt its reaction at roomt mperatur with compounds that conventionally react with isocyanat s but will p rmit that reaction to occur at higher temp rature.

Blocked isocyanates ar d scribed by Wicks in

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Progress in Organic Coatings (3, 1975, 73-99).

According to a preferr d embodiment of the invention the blocking agent is a non-volatil agent having a polymerisable double bond and an oxime function.

5 These agents have the general formula (I):

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where

 $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ = H or  $(C_1-C_5)$ alkyl

 $R^4$ = aliphatic, amidegroup or organic estergroup and 15  $R^5$ =  $(C_1-C_5)$ alkyl.

Preferably the amidegroup is steric hindered.

The aliphatic group, preferably, contains 1-10 carbon atoms.

The organic estergroup can be characterized by

20 O  $-C-O-R^6$  in which  $R^6=(C_1-C_{10})$  alkyl.

The agent having a polymerizable double bond and an oxime function is preferably an acrylamide derivative having the formula (II):

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$$CH_{2} = \overset{\text{H}}{C} - \overset{\text{C}}{C} - \overset{\text{C}}{N} - \overset{\text{C}}{C} - \text{CH}_{2} - \overset{\text{C}}{C} - \text{CH}_{3}$$

$$O \quad H \quad CH_{3} \qquad \overset{\text{II}}{N}$$

$$OH$$

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This suitable blocking agent according to the invention is diacetoneacrylamide oxime (DAAOX). The preparation of DAAOX is disclosed in Macromolecules, Vol. 16, 10, 1983, pages 1561-1563.

The us of DAAOX and other blocking agents having a polymerisable double bond and an oxime function is v ry advantag ous, because th se blocking agents do not evolv during the cure of a hydroxy-isocyanat powder

paint system. The blocking agent can be polymerised during cure of the powder paint, because they consist of a blocking side and a polymerizable double bond. The polymerizable double bond can be polymerized during the cure of the coating by adding a suitable peroxide. Any peroxide having a suitable halflife-time at the curing temperature of the coatings can be used. Preferably the peroxide has a halflife-time of less then 10 minutes at the temperature at which the coating is cured. The amount of peroxide can vary between 0.5 and 4 wt.%, preferably between 1 and 2%, based on the weight of the added blocked isocyanate crosslinker. Suitable peroxides include tert.—amyl-peroxybenzoate, tert.—butylperoxybenzoate and tert.—butylperoxy-2-ethylhexyl carbonate.

Said non-volatile blocking agents can be obtained from compounds having a ketone or aldehyde group which can be converted into an oxime and having an unsaturated double bond as well. Suitable examples of unsaturated ketones or aldehydegroups include

methyl-vinyl-ketone, ethyl-vinyl-ketone, mesityl-oxide, allylacetone, crotonaldehyde, 2-hexanal and citronellal. The blocking agent can be reacted with a (poly)isocyanate in a conventional way. Preferably the molar equivalent ratio (poly)isocyanate: blocking agent is substantially 1:1.

The main features of the isocyanate-hydroxyl curing reaction are described in the foregoing cited Powder Coatings, Chemistry and Technology at pages 56-58.

The use of a non-volatile agent having a

polymerizable double bond and an oxime function is not
limited to the reaction between a blocked isocyanate and
a hydroxyl functional acrylic resin. The hydroxyl
functional resin can also be, for example, a polyester or
a polyurethane.

Suitable volatile blocking agents include for example phenol, cresol, long-aliphatic-chain substituted ph nols such as isononylph nol, amid s such as \(\epsilon\)-caprolactam, active methylen group containing compounds

like malonates such as isopropyliden malonat and acetoacetic esters, sodium bisulfit and oximes such as for example methyl thylketone oxime and butanone oxime.

Suitable hydroxyl-functional acrylate resin

include for example resins based on hydroxyethyl
(meth)acrylate, hydroxypropyl (meth)acrylate and methyl
(meth)acrylate. The resin may also be based on methacrylic
acid and alkyl esters of (meth)acrylic acid such as methyl
acrylate, ethyl (meth)acrylate, isopropyl (meth)acrylate,

n-butyl (meth)acrylate, n-propyl (meth)acrylate, isobutyl
(meth)acrylate, ethylhexyl acrylate and/or cyclohexyl
(meth)acrylate and vinyl compounds such as styrene.

Preferably, the hydroxylacrylate resins have a hydroxyl number between 40 and 150 mg KOH/g resin and an acid number lower than 20 mg KOH/g resin.

The acrylate resins can be prepared by a (co)polymerization, where solvent is fed to a reactor and then heated until the solvent boils. Monomers, and subsequently monomers, initiator and, optionally,

- mercaptan are added during a period of, for instance, between 2 and 4 hours, after which the temperature is kept at the reflux temperature for, for instance, two hours. The solvent is distilled off by increasing the temperature followed by a vacuum distillation lasting, for instance,
- one to two hours. Then the product is drained and cooled. Suitable solvents include for example toluene, xylene and butylacetate. Suitable initiators include azo-bis-isobutyronitrile, dibenzoylperoxide and tert.-amyl-peroxy-2-ethyl-hexanoate.
- The weight ratio polymer:crosslinker is generally between 90:10 and 50:50.

Preferably the molar equivalent ratio of polymer:crosslinker is between 1:0,8 and 1:1,5. Very suitabl ratios ar between 1:1 and 1:1,2.

Obviously, all customary additives may be included in the composition. Examples of customary additives include pigments, fillers, flow aids, stabilizers and catalysts. Suitable pigments include

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inorganic pigments, for instance titanium oxide, zinc sulphide, iron oxide and chromium oxide, and organic pigm nts, for instance azo compounds. Suitable fillers include metal oxides, silicates, carbonates and sulphates.

The technology and production of powder coatings is described at pages 224-226 of Powder Coatings, Chemistry and Technology, by Tosko Misev (1991; John Wiley and Sons).

Powder coatings according to the present invention can be applied in general industrial and domestic appliances, metal furnitures, architectural applications, automotive topfinishes, corrosion protective coatings and finishes for wood, plastics and paper.

US-A-5097010 relates to the preparation of 15 thermally-reversible isocyanate polymer by reacting a labile hydrogen segment with an isocyanate segment. The obtained compositions are useful as hot-melt adhesives, coatings and mouldings and furthermore in injection reaction moulding applications and composite and laminate manufacturing followed by thermal forming and pulltrusion. 20 In contrast to the present invention, it is the object of US-A-5097010 to provide a thermally-reversible system. Futhermore in contrast to the present invention, which relates to thermosetting coatings, said US-patent discloses a thermoplastic system with polymer networks 25 which are insoluble strong solids at room temperature but become soluble free flowing melts at high temperature. Of course the polyurethanes are based on diisocyanates and polyols and a man skilled in the art also knows that long flexible polyols result in flexible polymers. The present 30 invention, however, relates to a flexible network and does not relate only to a flexible resin. It is for a man skilled in the art not obvious that a flexible part in a resin will also result in a fl xible network. It is the essential feature of th pr s nt invention that the poly-35 ther glycol incorporated in a polyt tramethyl n urethane resin (tog th r with other diols and diisocyanates) in combination with an acrylate r sin results in

a flexibl network. Applying polytetramethylene ether glycol as the glycol alone will not result in a sup rior powd r coating resin. The mixtur of polytetram thyl ne ether glycol with at least one other glycol or polyglycol produces the desired properties. One glycol is responsible for the flexibility, the other glycol is responsible for the level of the glass transition temperature.

The coatings of the present invention are further illustrated by the following experiments and examples. The examples are included for illustrative purposes and should not be considered to limit the present invention.

#### Experiment I

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15 Synthesis of an hydroxyl functional acrylic resin

A 2 L reactor vessel, equipped with a thermometer, a stirrer and a reflux cooler, was charged with 500 g toluene. The reactor was stirred, a nitrogen flow passed through the reactor and the temperature was increased to reflux temperature. A monomer mixture consisting of 417 g methyl methacrylate (MMA), 175 g hydroxyethyl methacrylate (HEMA), 200 g cyclohexylmethacrylate (CHMA), 200 g n-butylacrylate (BA) and 8 g methacrylic acid (MA) was added. In this monomer mixture 29,4 g 2,2-azo-bis-isobutyronitrile (AIBN) was dissolved.

The monomer mixture was fed to the reactor in 2.5 hours. The reflux temperature was maintained in the reactor for another 2.5 hours. Then a separator vessel was included in the setup, and the solvent was removed by a gradual increase of the temperature and application of a vacuum. A clear product was obtained with a glass transition temperature (Tg, Mettler TA-3000, system 5°C/min) of 46°C and a viscosity (h) (measured with Emila rheom ter, 165°C) of 350 dPa.s.

### Experiment II

Synth sis of diac ton acrylamide oxime (DAAOX)

100 g diac ton acrylamide was dissolv d in 375

ml of distilled wat r and 45.75 g hydroxylamine hydrochloride was added with stirring. A solution of 43.75 g potassium carbonat in 62.5 ml of distilled water was added at room temperature over a period of 20 min. After the addition was completed, most of the oxime product precipitated. The reaction was continued for an additional hour and the precipitate was filtered and washed with 50 ml of ice water twice. The wet crude product was dissolved in ethylacetate (500 ml), the organic layer was separated and crystallized in the refrigerator. The crystallized product was filtered and washed with 100 ml hexane twice. The final product was dried at 40°C in a vacuum oven to yield 77 g of the DAAOX product. The melting point (112°C) of DAAOX was measured by using a DSC.

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### Experiment III

## The blocking of IPDI with DAAOX (BIPDI)

40.48 g (10% excess) DAAOX obtained according to Experiment I was dissolved in 50 g methylethyl ketone and 22.2 g IPDI was added. The reaction was carried out at room temperature under dry nitrogen. The NCO content was less then 0.1% (by titration) after one hour reaction. The solvent was removed by destillation at 40°C in a vacuum oven overnight. The final blocked IPDI (BIPDI) can be pulverized into fine powder with a melting point of 55-60°C. The blocked NCO content of BIPDI is 13.5% by calculation.

### Experiment IV

# 30 The blocking of H<sub>12</sub>MDI with DAAOX (BHMDI)

147.5 g DAAOX (5% excess) obtained according to Experiment I was dissolved in methylethyl ketone (330 g) and 100 g  $\rm H_{12}MDI$  was then added. The reaction was carried out at 50°C under dry nitrog n. The NCO content was less then 0.1% (by titration) after one hour of reaction. The solvent was r moved at 40°C in a vacuum ov n. The final block d product BHMDI was pulverized to a fine powder and had a melting point (by DSC) of appr. 54°C.

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In ord r to xamine th polymerization of BHMDI, th intiator (tert.-amylperbenzoat ) was added into BHMDI to initiate polymerization. An xothermic peak was found in the analysis of DSC.

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### Examples I-VII

# Preparation of modified crosslinkers

The glycol blend was made by mixing two glycols in a ratio as mentioned in Table I. In a reactor, equipped with a stirrer and under a stream of dry nitrogen the 10 respective glycol blend and the appropriate amount of HMDI (see Table I) were charged. Methylethylketone (MEK) was added to reduce the viscosity. A small amount of dibutyltindilaurate was added (see Table I) as a catalyst, the reaction mixture was heated to 70°C. It was kept at that 15 temperature until the NCO percentage (as determined by titration) was reduced to half of the initial value. DAAOX was dissolved in MEK and then added into the reaction mixture. The reaction temperature was kept at 70°C until the NCO peak (2270  $\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ ) disappeared by checking the 20 infrared spectrum of the product.

After the products in MEK were further diluted with acetone to 25-30% solids content. The dilute solutions were then added dropwise into cold water under vigorous agitation (> 1500 RPM). The precipitates in the powdered form were then filtered and dried. Glass transition temperature and equivalent weights of NCO are given in Table I.

### 30 Examples VIII-XIV

## Preparation of a powder coating

The powder coating ingredients were weighted (in grammes) in the formulations as showed in Table II. The formulations wer dissolved is ac ton to prepare a solution of 25-30% solids cont nt. The solutions wer add d into cold water dropwise under vigorous agitation. The procipitates in powd r form were then filt red and dried. The dried powd rs were ground into a very fine

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particle size. Th y were sprayed el ctrostatically on plates and cur d as showed in Tabl II.

The present tests are described at pages 296-303 of Powder Coatings by Misev.

### Comparative Example A

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0.942 g of BHMDI according to Experiment IV was mixed with 2.058 g acrylic resin according to Example I, and the powder mixture was dissolved in 7.5 g of 10 cellosolve acetate. 0.0015 g dibutyltin diacetate was added as a deblocking catalyst. 0.0188 t-amyl-perbenzoate was added as initiator for the polymerization of DAAOX after deblocking reaction. 0.0585 g of  $E-25^{\text{TM}}$  was added as flow control agent. The solution of this mixture was 15 coated on stell panels, and the panels were baked at 160°C for 30 min. The coatings were well cured, which was proved by the pencil hardness of 2H and more then 200 aceton rubs. However, the impact resistance (ASTM-D-2794) was 20 less than 30 inchpound.

This shows that the coating made with a non-modified crosslinker has poor properties.

The examples show that the isocyanate crosslinker according to the invention results in very flexible acrylic powder coatings with good properties. The claimed invention results in a remarkable increase in impact resistance.

TABLE I (grammes)

<pre>- mydrogenated Methylene Diphenyl Dilsocyana; = Voranol 220-530 (Dow Chemical); polyether   = Cyclohexyldimethanol = 2,2-bis(1-hydroxy-2-oxy-ethylphenyl)propanc = 1,1-isopropylidene-bis(p-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylidene-bis(b-phenyleneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylideneoxy)-di-jeropanol-2,1,1-isopropylideneoxy</pre>

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	Resin Exp. I	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	Crosslinker I	.105,3	ı	ı	1			) } ! <b>!</b>
	Crosslinker II	1	105,8	1	ı	1	ı	ı
	Crosslinker III	ı	•	96,85	ı	1	ı	ı
10	Crosslinker IV	1	ı		111,0	ı	ı	ı
	Crosslinker V	1	ż	ı	1	113.1	ı	ı
	Crosslinker VI	1	1	ı	ı		80,61	1
	Crosslinker VII	1	ı	1	i	1		α,
,	TIT	, 05	2,058	96′	2,110	2,131	•	
15	TAP <sup>2</sup> )	1,053	1,058	0,9685	1,110	1,131	908'0	, 82
	E 2 2	99′	0	, 55	,74	2,770	•	, 37
	Cure conditions	150.0	150°C	150.0	150ໍຕ	150.0	150°C	150°C
		30,	30,	30,	30,	30,		
20	Hardness <sup>4)</sup>	出 ^	H <	2H	H ^	H <	<b>)</b>	H <
	Aceton res. <sup>5)</sup>	> 200	> 200	> 200	> 200	> 200	> 200	> 200
	Impact res. 6)				)	ı	ì	3
	- direct	120	110	110	16	-	-	Ą
1	- r verse	100	09	09 >	> 160	> 160	> 160	120
22								
	TI1)	= Dibutvltin di	diacetate					
	2)	Tert.	amyl perbenzoate	Φ				
		= Flow control	agent (D	SM)				
30	51	Pencil h		m				
	Impact res. 6)	= Acetone resistance = Impact resistance	<sub>ຍ</sub> ັ	(SOlvent C)	cure test	method)		
			-		,			

### CLAIMS

- 1. A powder paint based on acrylics, charact rized in that, the thermosetting powder paint comprises

   a hydroxyl functional acrylic resin and
   an isocyanate crosslinking agent blocked with a blocking agent, wherein the isocyanate crosslinking agent is an adduct of an isocyanate and a mixture of polytetramethylene ether glycol and at least one additional, but other glycol, selected from the group consisting of glycols and polyglycols.
  - Powder paint according to claim 1, characterized in that the additional polyglycol is a polyether polyol.
- Powder paint according to any one of claims 1-2, characterized in that the blocking agent is an agent having a polymerisable double bond and an oximefunction.
  - Powder paint according to claim 3, characterized in that the agent is diacetone acrylamide oxime.
- 20 5. Use of an adduct of an isocyanate and a mixture of polytetramethylene ether glycol and at least one additional but other glycol selected from the group consisting of glycols and polyglycols as crosslinking agent in the preparation of powder coatings.
- 25 6. A method for preparing a powder paint composition comprising a hydroxyl functional acrylic resin and an isocyanate crosslinking agent which is blocked, characterized in that the isocyanate crosslinking agent comprises an adduct of an isocyanate and a mixture of polytetramethylene ether glycol and at least one additional, but other glycol selected from the group consisting of glycols and polyglycols and the weight ratio of polymer:crosslinking agent is
- 35 7. Method according to claim 6, characterized in that the blocking agent is an agent having a polymerisable double bond and an oxime-function.

betw n 90:10 and 50:50.

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8. Method according to claim 7, characterized in that the agent is diacetone acrylamide oxime.

- 9. Binder composition comprising a resin and a crosslinking agent characterized in that the resin is a hydroxyl functional acrylic resin and the crosslinking agent an isocyanate crosslinking agent blocked with a blocking agent, wherein the isocyanate crosslinking agent is an adduct of an isocyanate and a mixture of polytetramethylene ether glycol and at least one additional, but other glycol, selected from the group consisting of glycols and polyglycols.
- 10. Binder composition comprising a hydroxyl group containing polymer and an isocyanate crosslinking agent blocked with a blocking agent, characterized in that the blocking agent is an agent having a polymerizable double bond and an oxime-function.
- 11. Powder paint composition comprising a hydroxyl group containing polymer and an isocyanate crosslinking agent blocked with a blocking agent, characterized in that the blocking agent is an agent having a polymerizable double bond and an oxime-function.
- 12. An article coated with a composition according to any one of claims 1-4 or an article coated with a composition obtained according to any one of claims 6-8.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inten nal Application No PCT/NL 93/00212

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A. CLASS IPC 5	CO8G18/12 CO8G18/48	C08G18/28	C08G18/6 C08G18/8		18/66 5/03	C08G18/40 C09D175/16	
According t	o International Patent Cla	ssification (IPC) or to b	oth national classifi	cation and IPC			
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Electronic d	ata base consulted during	the international search	(name of data base	and, where pract	ical, search t	erms used)	
	IENTS CONSIDERED T	·					
Category *	Citation of document, wi	th indication, where ap	propriate, of the rel	evant passages		Relevant to claim No.	
A	1986 see claims see page 1,	884 (STEVENS 1-3 line 1 - li line 16 - l	ne 4	February		1	
A	EP,A,O 327 031 (ASAHI KASEI) 9 August 1989 see claims 1,7,9					1	
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Furt	ner documents are listed in	the continuation of bo	k C.	χ Patent fan	uly members	are listed in annex.	
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